



Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities



Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Program

For Veterans with Disabilities
Pursuing Higher Education

WHO WAS ERNEST T. HAMILTON, JR.?

In memory of Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr., who was a former Veteran and Commissioner of the Commission on Disabilities, the Commission extended the Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship to veterans with disabilities who want to pursue a higher education.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- ◆ **Disabled Veterans residing in the County of Los Angeles at time of filing**
- ◆ **Veterans with a disability or disabilities who has been discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States under honorable conditions**
- ◆ **Veterans who possess a valid DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD214), or any other official document(s) issued by the branch of service**

**Los Angeles County and the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities hereby advise the recipient of the Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship the amount received may be an asset subject to disclosure by the recipient. The recipient of the Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship acknowledges the receipt of this scholarship fund may impact his/her eligibility to any currently enrolled public or other benefit programs. The scholarship recipient bears sole responsibility to inform any public or other benefit program of the amount of scholarship he/she receives.*

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SCHOLARSHIP GRANT?

- ◆ To provide supplemental financial assistance to community college, vocational (trade) school, or four-year college students
- ◆ To enlighten the public that individuals with disabilities can succeed in higher education and take advantage of expanded career opportunities
- ◆ To educate the community about the academic abilities of students with disabilities

WHAT IS THE CRITERIA?

Applicants must:

- ◆ Provide proof of enrollment in a community college, four-year college, vocational (trade) school, a letter of acceptance from the chosen institute or documents issued by a United States Armed Forces branch of government for a specific trade
- ◆ Provide proof of 2.0 GPA or better (transcripts); or a valid DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD214), or any other official document(s) issued by the branch of service
- ◆ Submit a thoroughly completed Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Application
- ◆ Attend the Board of Supervisors presentation
- ◆ Attend the 2016 Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Reception to share his/her experience as a scholarship awardee
- ◆ Participate in a follow-up *Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund* survey

HOW THE MONEY IS DISBURSED?

- ◆ An award will be granted to a veteran student with a disability or who has earned a certificate in specialized training
- ◆ Awards will be disbursed in two parts – half upon submission of transcript grades from a community college, vocational (trade) school, or four-year college for the end of the first school semester/quarter
- ◆ The second half will be disbursed upon the submission of transcript grades from the end of the second semester/quarter; transcripts must be submitted within 30 days following the end of each semester/quarter

Part I – Applicant Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Gender(M/F): ____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cellular Telephone: _____

Work Telephone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Social Security Number (last four digits): _____

Military Service Number (last four digits) : _____ Military Branch _____

Dates of Service: (From) _____ (To) _____

Direct experience with disability: _____

Date your disability was diagnosed: _____

Functional limitations/characteristics of your disability: _____

Part II – Education

Name of Community College, vocational/trade school, or four-year College you plan to attend. _____

Number of semester units you plan to take: _____

School and Community Involvement

Below, please briefly list your involvement with your school and/or community. This may include any offices you held, club memberships, after school activities or work experiences.

Name of Activity

Dates (from/to)

(Please attach a separate sheet of paper if necessary)

Part III – Knowledge of Commission on Disabilities and the County

Please attach your written response on a separate sheet to the completed application.

1. What can you tell us about the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities?
2. Which Supervisorial District do you reside in? Tell us something about your Supervisor.
3. The occupation of a Supervisor is a significant political position in the County of Los Angeles. Could you explain, in your own words, the importance of the position held by a County Supervisor?
4. What is the importance of receiving a higher education?
5. This scholarship is named for Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Tell us something about him.

Part IV – Essay Questions

Please attach your written response on a separate sheet to the completed application.

1. **Qualifications** – Explain why you feel you are a qualified candidate for the scholarship.
2. **Educational Goal** – Explain how education will help you achieve self-sufficiency and independence.
3. **Career Goal** – If you receive the scholarship, explain how you plan to use it to attain your career and professional goals.
4. **Experience as a Person with a Disability** – Describe how your disability will affect your goals or career plans.

Part V – Recommendations

Please attach two letters of recommendation from counselors, teachers, coaches and/or employers, etc.

The scholarship award winner will be notified on May 20, 2016. Details about the scholarship presentation will be given at that time.

PLEASE NOTE

Failure to present necessary documentation may result in the forfeit of scholarship award.

Scholarship winners must attend the 2016 Scholarship Reception and the Board of Supervisors Presentation to be held on June 28, 2016, to share their experience as scholarship winner, and participate in a follow-up Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund survey.

Veteran Signature: _____ Date: _____

Applications will **NOT** be considered unless all of the requested information are thoroughly completed, submitted and received by **May 9, 2016**.

Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities
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